

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-5 and 8-12. Applicants have amended claim 6. Accordingly, claims 1-12 are presently pending in this application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following arguments.

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Applicants have amended claim 6 to clarify the invention and to add the limitation “wherein the method further includes the step of placing a spacer around the connecting device prior to deformation of the connecting device such that deformation of the connecting device causes teeth of the spacer to dig into the rotor top.” Applicants submit that support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification and drawings including in original claim 1.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 6-7 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(B)

Claims 6-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Yukio et al. (JP 2-60442). Applicants have amended claim 6. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 6-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) has been overcome because Yukio et al. does not disclose or suggest all of the limitations recited in the claims as amended. In re Paulsen, 30 F.3d 1475, 1478-79, 31 U.S.P.Q.2d 1671 (Fed. Cir. 1994); Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1997) (“A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.”).

Independent claim 6, as amended, recites a method of assembling an electric motor having a deformable connecting device connecting the motor shaft and rotor top including “the step of placing a spacer around the connecting device prior to deformation of the connecting device such that deformation of the connecting device causes teeth of the spacer to dig into the rotor top.” Applicants respectfully submit that Yukio et al. does not disclose or suggest a method meeting the above-recited limitations.

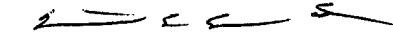
Yukio et al. discloses a method for assembling a motor including coupling a rotor 1 and motor shaft 3 with a bush 4 that the Examiner has equated to the connecting device as recited in claim 6.. Yukio et al. does not, however, disclose or suggest the step of “placing a spacer around the connecting device prior to deformation of the connecting device such that deformation of the connecting device causes teeth of the spacer to dig into the rotor top” as recited in independent claim 6, as amended.

Because Yukio et al. does not disclose or suggest a method meeting all of the limitations of independent claim 6, as amended, Applicants submit that the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) has been overcome and request that the rejection be withdrawn. Further because claim 7 depends from independent claim 6, Applicants submit that the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) has also been overcome and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the above cited reasons, all of the claims presently pending in this application are believed to be allowable. If the Examiner has any further questions or concerns, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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